



South Carolina
Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University
1835 Assembly St., Suite 1008 · Columbia, SC 29201
(800) 424-9406 · FAX (803) 765-5310 · www.nass.usda.gov/sc

Issue: SC-CW003710
Released: September 7, 2010 , after 4 pm
Week Ending: September 5, 2010
Cooperating Agencies:
Clemson University
SC State Climatology Office
Farm Service Agency



GENERAL

South Carolina escaped any noticeable effects from hurricane Earl. Rainfall was nearly nonexistent this past week across the state. Most crop conditions declined only slightly with the exception of soybeans, and pastures. Armyworms were still a problem, and infestations were reported in many counties in the upper half of the state. Sunny and dry conditions caused soil moisture levels to significantly dry out and were 6% very short, 45% short, 48% adequate and 1% surplus. There was a statewide average of 6.8 days suitable for fieldwork in South Carolina.

FIELD CROPS

The **CORN** crop has matured, and farmers took advantage of the clear weather to get into the fields. Nearly two-thirds of corn has been harvested, ahead of last year, and the five-year average. Corn conditions were little changed were reported at 5% very poor, 21% poor, 41% fair, 31% good and 2% excellent. Ninety-six percent of **COTTON** had set bolls and 31% had bolls open, now ahead of the five-year average. A few produces in the Low Country were beginning to apply defoliants. Cotton conditions did not change much either and were 3% poor, 26% fair, 62% good and 9% excellent. **PEANUT** harvest has begun early. Conditions remained mostly good and were 1% poor, 23% fair, 67% good and 9% excellent. At ninety-eight percent, nearly all of **SOYBEANS** had bloomed and 84% had set pods. Only 4% of the crop had turned color. Earlier heat, and this week's dry conditions have slowed the crop's development. Growers were scouting for velvet bean caterpillars. Soybean conditions did decline and were reportedly 9% poor, 38% fair, 49% good and 4% excellent. Ninety percent of **TOBACCO** has been harvested and 45% of producers have destroyed stalks.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Less intense heat coupled with drier air helped **LIVESTOCK** conditions improved again and were 1% poor, 25% fair, 73% good, and 1% excellent. More livestock producers were feeding hay to livestock. **PASTURE** conditions declined and were reportedly 4% very poor, 15% poor, 34% fair, 46% good and 1% excellent. The **PEACH** harvest continues to wind down.

Crop Progress for Week Ending September 5, 2010

Crop and Stage	2010	2009	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2010	2009	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn, Matured	100	100	99	Soybeans, Bloomed	98	98	98
Corn, Harvested	65	62	57	Soybeans, Pods Set	84	90	84
Cotton, Bolls Set	96	99	98	Soybeans, Turned Color	4	4	8
Cotton, Bolls Opened	31	27	28	Tobacco, Harvested	90	91	90
Peaches, Harvested	98	99	93	Tobacco, Stalks Destroyed	45	60	46
Peanuts, Harvested	3	0	0	Winter Grazings, Planted	7	4	4

Condition for Week Ending September 5, 2010

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn	5	21	41	31	2	Pasture	4	15	34	46	1
Cotton	0	3	26	62	9	Peanuts	0	1	23	67	9
Livestock	0	1	25	73	1	Soybeans	0	9	38	49	4

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending September 5, 2010

A ridge of high pressure spread southward on Monday with early morning low temperatures of 61 degrees at Conway, Loris, Kingstree and Johnston. The last day of meteorological summer was sunny and hot. Dillon recorded 98 degrees on Tuesday, August 31. Rainfall amounts for August ranged from Aiken’s total of 12.44 inches to 1.47 inches at McColl. Less humid conditions were observed on Wednesday despite the thermometer climbing to 98 degrees again at Columbia Metro AP, Longtown and McCormick. At 3:00 p.m., the Rock Hill AP reported 94 degrees and a relative humidity value of 25 percent. On Thursday, a distant offshore Hurricane Earl passed to the east. The only noticeable effects were 36 mph wind gusts at Springmaid Pier, Myrtle Beach, large breaking swells along the beaches and a minimum barometric pressure of 29.79 inches of mercury recorded at N Myrtle Beach AP at 1:53 a.m., on September 3. Following the influence of the tropical feature, subsiding air was evident on Friday with Columbia AP reporting a 2:00 p.m. temperature of 97 degrees and a relative humidity value of just 19 percent. Lake Wateree and McCormick both recorded 99-degree high temperatures. Re-enforcing dry air, courtesy of a frontal boundary, arrived late on Friday and extended the rain-free stretch into the holiday weekend. The Clemson Sandhill Experiment Station noted an open pan evaporation water loss of 0.42 inches during the 24-hours ending on Saturday morning. Bright blue skies and light westerly winds were observed for inland South Carolina Saturday with most of the state’s afternoon temperatures peaking in the upper 80’s. Unseasonably cool temperatures were reported on Sunday morning. Saluda’s 56 degrees was their lowest temperature since May 20. The state average temperature for the seven-day period was one degree above normal.

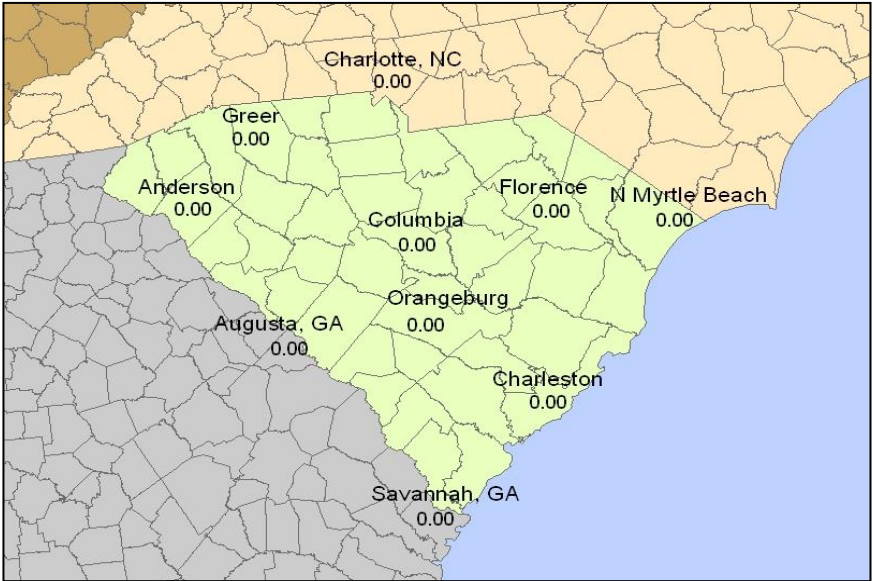
The highest official temperature reported was 100 degrees at Johnston on September 3. The lowest official temperature reported was 48 degrees at Chesnee on September 5. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.0 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 82 degrees, Charleston 82 degrees.
RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near normal. Ocean water temperatures at the Johnny Mercer Pier, Wrightsville Beach, NC, were reported at 83 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2010	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.00	33.21	-1.2
Anderson	0.00	29.80	-2.6
Columbia	0.00	28.87	-7.1
Orangeburg	0.00	33.61	-2.4
Charlotte, NC	0.00	27.97	-2.1
Augusta, GA	0.00	23.61	-9.0
Florence	0.00	31.77	-1.0
N Myrtle Beach	0.00	28.06	-3.4
Charleston	0.00	45.84	8.1
Savannah, GA	0.00	30.80	-6.4

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



USDA-NASS
SOUTH CAROLINA FIELD OFFICE
1835 Assembly St. Suite 1008
Columbia, SC 29201-2449
Official Business

Address Service Requested